SOLOMON ISLANDS

FORESTRY

INFORMATION PAMPHLET

NO.2

ROVIANA TREE NAMES: A Provisional Check List

SOLOMON ISLANDS FORESTRY DIVISION

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This report attempts to provide a check list of trees and shrubs named in the Roviana language. Where known, the Roviana name is identified alongside its accepted botanical name (Latin), and the Kwara'ae name as used in Malaita.

Since the forestry operations of logging and re-planting have been largely concentrated in the Western Province of the Solomon Islands in the last ten years, it is important to be aware of the tree names used locally. Roviana is essentially the lingua franca the Western Solomons.

"A Roviana and English Dictionary" was prepared in 1928 by the missionary J H L Waterhouse, and includes many tree names and notes on traditional uses. Indeed some of the tree names in this old book are not known to modern Roviana speakers, but are included here for completeness. Another important document is F S Walker's 1948 "The Forests of the British Solomon Islands Protectorate", which indicates Roviana names for many of the main species. The Kwara'ae names only are used in T C Whitmore's 1966 "Guide to the Forests of the British Solomon Islands". More recently there is an unpublished partial list of Roviana plant names prepared by J M Diamond (c.1975). These written sources have been synthesised into one list.

Thereafter, Roviana speakers in the Forestry Derartment have contributed considerably to the list. In particular, Semeon Iputu, Montrose Lomae, Terry Kera and Silas Pitukolo have usefully expanded the list and pointed out errors. F D tree namers Susui Babala assisted with comparison of the Kwara'ae names.

This present report synthesises and draws fully on all the above sources, written and verbal, to which full acknowledgement is made. A total of 176 Roviana names for trees and shrubs is given, of which 137 presently have known botanical names, at the specific or generic level.

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Munda 1/12/79

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A botanical name index, derived from the 1979 original, has been added to this reprint edition, but no other alterations have been made to the wording, pagination, page layout or content of the 1979 original. No revisions or updates have been made.

ROVIANA	BOTANICAL NAME	KWARA'AE
agana	PANDANUS SPP.	fau
babageva	HERITIERA LITTORALIS	one one
bakabaka	DYSOXYLUM CAULOSTACHYUM	airande
	HERNANDIA PELTATA	beulbeulu/faoniasi/ fao
bebea	TOURNEFORTIA ARGENTEA	kwokwo
bebeu	(see 'uvolo')	
beta	ARTOCARPUS INCISA (bread-fruit)	baleo/rauai
biribiri	RAPANEA SP.(?)	aulasi
bobogele	PEMPHIS ACIDULA	
boe	ARTOCARPUS VRIESIANUS(?)	u'ufi
bolava	NEOSCORTECHINIA FORBESII	aiasila
bosi	EVODIA ELLERYANA	ba'aba'a/aisafu
bou	FAGRAEA GRACILIPES	bauu
bubue	ALBIZIA FALCATARIA	fai/manufai
buburata	FAGRAEA BERTERIANA	bula
buni	CALOPHYLLUM INOPHYLLUM	dalo
bunibuni	CALOPHYLLUM KAJEWSKII	ba'ula
buni vizolo	CALOPHYLLUM VITIENSE	gwaragwaro
dadao	BARRINGTONIA ASIATICA	fu/futu
davala	CANARIUM SP. (with purple-black husk)	
dodoru	TREMA CANNABINA	fifikulu
domu	BISCHOFIA JAVANICA	oli oli
	GLOCHIDION SP.	fai oa
dula	(tree, bad-smelling)	
duvi	(tree, bark can be made into cloth)	
edeve	METROXYLON SALOMONENSE (ivory nut)	sao
elava	BROUSSONETIA PAPYRIFERA (paper-bark tree)	
elohilu	(tree, timber can be used for canoes)	

elokale	FICUS SP.	
galavia	(treebark used to heal wounds caused by piercing ears)	
giza	MARANTHES CORYMBOSA	aisiksiki
gogolati	(small tree? found with mangroves)	
gurata	MORINDA CITRIFOLIA	dilo/kikifi
habehabe nusa	SOPHORA TOMENTOSA	malamala alako
haila	MEMECYLON SP. (shacklewood)	lilia
hame	CALOPHYLLUM SP. (herbarium 424)	
hebere	DILLENIA INGENS	mudu
hekolo	ARECA SP.	
heta	ARECA CATECHU (betel nut)	angiro
hilin̲iri	(tree)	
hilivuvutu	(small tree? wood for yam stakes ink made from fruit.)	
hime	RATONIA SP.(?)	
hinukutu	FICUS SP.	
hioko	(tree, green wood as fish spear shafts, tough bark for tying.)	
hipala	EUGENIA MALACCENSIS (rose apple)	afio
hipuru belama	(tree)	
hirihiri	ELAEOCARPUS SPHAERICUS	milo
hohoe	MACARANGA TANARIUS	reberebe/takasua
hovaka	BURCKELLA OBOVATA	faigona/kona
huda keresimasi	DELONIX REGIA (christmas tree - flamboyant)	
huda putaputa	SAMANEA SAMAN (rain tree)	
huhu	FICUS SP.	
ibibu	(large shade tree)	
ivili	INTSIA BIJUGA	u'ula
kakadikina	ENDOSPERMUM MEDULLOSUM	a'asa
	ENDOSPERMUM FORMICARUM	aiaofia

kakarumu	LUMNITZERA LITTOREA	dengal asi
kalala	FICUS SP. (banyan)	
kalokalo	(beach tree, roots in salt water)	
kanana	ARECA SP.	
kapuhu	DILLENIA SALOMONENSIS	mudi
kevu	(small local bamboo)	
kidikidoga	(beach tree)	
kinu	BARRINGTONIA EDULIS (cut-nut)	ai kenu/fala
koe	XYLOCARPUS GRANATUM	lalato
kokeqolo	DYSOXYLON SP.	
	AGLAIA SP.	ulukwalo
kokoaka	CROTOLARIA SP.	
kokoapa	(tree, timber used for houses)	
kokoqa	(tree)	
kolikoli	HERNANDIA PAPUANA	malathau
kololou	TIMONIUS SP.	sakosia/aisemende
konu	(straight tree used for legs of "koku" - diving tripod)	
kosokoso habili	BUCHANANIA ARBORESCENS	malakona/utalaesau
kuava	PSIDIUM GUAVA (guava)	
kukude	(large tree, dark timber, edible fruit)	
kumada	CINNAMOMUM SALOMONENSE	
kuvara	(tree, bark made into twine)	
leqe	GNETUM GNEMON	dae/daefasia/ daemalef
lio	(small tree, twine from bark for fish lines, nets)	
liqeliqe	(tall tree, wood for spear shafts)	
lokuloku	(small tree)	
lolomata	CELTIS LATIFOLIA	la'usi
	CELTIS PHILIPPENSIS	laelae
lomolomo	(tree, wood for clubs, walking sticks)	

lozi	BOMBAX MALABARICUM	
lulua	AMOORA CUCULLATA	maoa
lupo	FICUS SP.	
malapo	SYZYGIUM SAMARANGENSE	
matemate igana	THESPESIA POPULNEA	faoniasi
mavo	(tree, wood light used as cork)	
mavuana	SECURINEGA FLEXUOSA	mamafua
momoze	(tree, resembling bischofia)	
muduku	(large tree with edible fruit)	
nabisi	TERMINALIA SP.	
nabi nabisi	TERMINALIA CALAMANSANAI	kako/kwalo/sualisuali
nabisi pinomo	TERMINALIA CALAMANSANAI	kako/kwalo/sualisuali
naqarita	CANANGA ODORATA	sa'o/sa'osa'o
naqi	INOCARPUS FAGIFERUS	ailali
naqinaqi	CORDIA SUBCORDATA (kerosene wood)	fofotasi
naru	CASUARINA PAPUANA	malasalu
	CASUARINA EQUISETIFOLIA	salu
nato<u>n</u>o	GARUGA FLORIBUNDA	mala aio
nekete	PIPTURUS ARGENTEUS	chongsuma/sungasunga
	DENDROCNIDE SP.	
nobinobi hinero	(tree, leaves used to cover ngali nuts)	
<u>n</u>avi	HOMALANTHUS SP.(?)	fai isikima/nunumba sikona
<u>n</u>ohara	COCOS NUCIFERA (coconut)	niu
oboba	MACARANGA SP.	
okete	CANARIUM INDICUM (ngali nut)	ngali
opiti	SPONDIAS DULCIS	aioo/uuli
opopiti	(small tree on coral islands, similar to Pemphis acidula, edible skin of fruit)	
paloto	PALAQUIUM ERYTHROSPERMUM	faibaru/maliolo
pano	KLEINHOVIA HOSPITA(?)	faifai

pepeo	TERMINALIA BRASSII	dafo
petepete	LITSEA DOMARENSIS	sarufi/sasasu
petu	BRUGUIERA SPP., RHIZOPHORA SPP., CERIOPS TAGAL (mangroves)	koa/dina'asi/kakabara
petukele	COMMERSONIA BARTRAMIA	dadame/daedae
pidiki	EUGENIA ONESIMA	aibu/aimela
pike	(straight tree with small scented flowers and one-inch red fruit that opens)	
pipiko	MYRISTICA SP.	kakala'a/ai kuku
poga	(small tree, fruit red, hard and inedible, bark can be used for cloth)	
pokopoko	CAMPNOSPERMA BREVIPETIOLATA	ketekete
popodala	ARCHIDENDRON OBLONGUM	lami lami
poro	PANDANUS SP.	fau
puza	GOMPHANDRA SP.	maemae/aialo
qeholo	PROSOPSIS INSULARIS	karefo
qema	POMETIA PINNATA	akwa/ako/dawa
qoliti	GMELINA MOLUCCANA (canoewood)	arokoko
rakatako	HIBISCUS TILIACEUS	fakasu/fa'aola/madafu
rapa	FICUS SP.	
raporapo	ERYTHRINA SP.	rara
raravuta	(tree, large leaves used for wrapping food in earth ovens)	
rereke	MANGIFERA INDICA (mango)	asai
rereveti	GUETTARDA SPECIOSA	aibuasi/nori/tasisi
rige	DIOSPYROS SPP. (ebony)	aibulu
riqi	PTEROCARPUS INDICUS	liki
romo	ASTRONIA SP.	aiasaka
roqi	SCHIZOMERIA SERRATA	
roviroviana	(tree)	
ruruvate	(thornless, citrus-like tree with shrivelled orange fruit with ca. 10 seeds)	

ruvoruvo	CYCAS CIRCINALIS(?)	baebae
sakita	SEMECARPUS SP.	kwailasi
soari	TERMINALIA CATAPPA	alita
sosoruku	TREMA ORIENTALIS(?)	bulasisi
sunibeta	(tree)	
tageva	BOERLAGIODENDRON SP.	gwalifunu
takupi	CELTIS NYMANII	aifalisi/gwalofalisi
tanovo	ALSTONIA SCHOLARIS	aitonga/suala/taba'a
tatalise	TERMINALIA CATAPPA	alita
tatalise hoholo	TERMINALIA KAERNBACHII	
telaka	(tree, with mango-like fruit)	
tita	PARINARI GLABERRIMA	saia
tivulu	PINANGA SP.(?)	
tobo	MACARANGA SP.	
tolo	RHIZOPHORA MUCRONATA	
toqoneta	TIMONIUS SP.	sakosia/aisemende
tototu	(tree, mangrove sp.)	
totuana	ALSTONIA SPECTABILIS	gwatasaliu/siliu'u
tovinia	CANARIUM VITIENSE	malangali
tui	DOLICHANDRONE SPATHACEA	kwaekwae ale
tuki hobu	MACARANGA TANARIUS	reberebe takasua
tukituki	MACARANGA SP.	
tukituki hobu	MACARANGA RIPARIA	
uvolo	(tree with white bottle-brush flowers and edible fruit)	
valaga	(beach tree, strong light-coloured wood, good for comb)	
valinana	(tree, scented leaves)	
vao	(beach tree, inedible red fruit)	
varilaqe	(tree like Intsia, leaves used in medicines)	
varu	HIBISCUS TILIACEUS	fakasu/fa'aola/ madafu

vasara	VITEX COFASSUS	fata/aiululu
vilole	PLANCHONELLA THYRSOIDEA	kete
	PLANCHONELLA FIRMA	maliolo
viruri	(tree)	
voko	ARECA SP.	
vora	(tree, tough wood used for digging sticks)	
vorusu	(tree amongst mangroves, timber for posts, rafters)	
vosevose	NAUCLEA ORIENTALIS	kakarafua
vovoku	PLERANDRA SP.(?)	sigoria
vovotonana	OCHROSIA PARVIFLORA	aikikiro/aimalua
vuagore	DYSOXYLUM SP.	aimokta'a
zemizemi	EUGENIA TIERNEYANA	rafa
zizito	(second-growth softwood tree)	
zovi	PREMNA OBTUSIFOLIA	

This provisional check list can be improved if Roviana speakers provide information on other names they know of.

To be sure of correctly identifying a tree or shrub botanically, a collection of some leaves, together with flowers or fruit if available, should be made. This can be sent to Forestry Department, together with a short description of the tree, its Roviana name, its size, bark-type and where it was found. Any such information or plant collection can be supplied to Forest Research Station, Munda, from where it will be sent to the Forest Herbarium for botanical identification.

In some cases it may still be possible to identify the tree by comparison with another dialect name, if known. Roviana names are not yet known for the following important trees:

Parinari salomonensis	one (Kwara'ae)
Teysmanniodendron ahernianum	felofelo (K)
Gonystylus macrophyllus	ainunura (K); petata (Marovo)
Xanthophyllum papuanum	mole(K); auru (Avoiso, Choiseul)
Trichadenia philippinensis	sala/sasto'o/takalofa (K)
Octomeles sumatrana	fote/rara (K); rimo (Marovo); lumbi (Kol.)
Prunus schlechteri	aimangelo (K)
Terminalia complanata	ama/amabala/amarodo (K); marapopoli (Rendova)
Terminalia sepicana	ama/amabala/amarodo (K)
Weinmannia sp.	aitootoo (K)
Tristiropsis acutangula	sirugeroto (Vella Lavella)
Leucaena leucocephala	

APPENDIX: BOTANICAL NAME INDEX

BOTANICAL NAME	ROVIANA NAME
Aglaia sp.	kokeqolo
Albizia falcataria	bubue
Alstonia scholaris	tangovo
Alstonia spectabilis	totuana
Amoora cucullata	lulua
Archidendron oblongum	popodala
Areca catechu	heta
Areca sp.	hekolo
Areca sp.	kangana
Areca sp.	voko
Artocarpus incisa	beta
Artocarpus vriesianus?	boe
Astronia sp.	romo
Barringtonia asiatica	dadao
Barringtonia edulis	kinu
Bischofia javanica	domu
Boerlagiodendron sp.	tageva
Bombax malabaricum	lozi
Broussonetia papyrifera	elava
Bruguiera spp.	petu
Buchanania arborescens	kosokoso habili
Burckella obovata	hovaka
Calophyllum inophyllum	buni
Calophyllum kajewskii	bunibuni
Calophyllum sp.	hame
Calophyllum vitiense	buni vizolo
Campnosperma brevipetiolata	pokopoko
Cananga odorata	naqarita
Canarium indicum	okete
Canarium sp.	davala
Canarium vitiense	tovinia
Casuarina equisetifolia	naru
Casuarina papuana	naru
Celtis latifolia	lolomata
Celtis nymanii	takupi
Celtis philippensis	lolomata
Ceriops tagal	petu
Cinnamomum salomonense	kumada
Cocos nucifera	ngohara
Commersonia bartramia	petukele
Cordia subcordata	naqinaqi
Crotolaria sp.	kokoaka
Cycas circinalis(?)	ruvoruvo
Delonix regia	huda keresimasi
Dendrocnide sp.	nekete

Dillenia ingens	hebere
Dillenia salomonensis	kapuhu
Diospyros spp.	rige
Dolichandrone spathacea	tui
Dysoxylum caulostachyum	bakabaka
Dysoxylum sp.	kokeqolo
Dysoxylum sp.	vuagore
Eleaeocarpus sphaericus	hirihiri
Endospermum formicarum	kakadikina
Endospermum medullosum	kakadikina
Erythrina sp.	raporapo
Eugenia malaccensis	hipala
Eugenia onesima	pidiki
Eugenia tierneyana	zemizemi
Evodia elleryana	bosi
Fagraea berteriana	buburata
Fagraea gracilipes	bou
Ficus sp.	elokale
Ficus sp.	hinukutu
Ficus sp.	huhu
Ficus sp.	kalala
Ficus sp.	lupo
Ficus sp.	rapa
Garuga floribunda	natongo
Glochidion sp.	domu
Gmelina moluccana	qoliti
Gnetum gnemon	leqe
Gomphandra sp.	puza
Guettarda speciosa	rereveti
Heritiera littoralis	babageva
Hernandia papuana	kolikoli
Hernandia peltata	bakabaka
Hibiscus tiliaceus	rakatako
Hibiscus tiliaceus	varu
Homalanthus sp.(?)	ngavi
Inocarpus fagiferus	naqi
Intsia bijuga	ivili
Kleinhovia hospita(?)	pano
Litsea domarensis	petepete
Lumnitzera littorea	kakarumu
Macaranga riparia	tukituki hobu
Macaranga sp.	oboba
Macaranga sp.	tobo
Macaranga sp.	tukituki
Macaranga tanarius	hohoe
Macaranga tanarius	tuki hobu
Mangifera indica	rereke
Maranthes corymbosa	giza

Memecylon sp.	haila
Metroxylon salomonense	edeve
Morinda citrifolia	gurata
Myristica sp.	pipiko
Nauclea orientalis	vosevose
Neoscortechinia forbesii	bolava
Ochrosia parviflora	vovotongana
Palaquium erythrospermum	paloto
Pandanus sp.	poro
Pandanus spp.	agana
Parinari glaberrima	tita
Pemphis acidula	bobogele
Pinanga sp.(?)	tivulu
Pipturus argenteus	nekete
Planchonella firma	vilole
Planchonella thyrsoidea	vilole
Plerandra sp.(?)	vovoku
Pometia pinnata	qema
Premna obtusifolia	zovi
Prosopis insularum	qeholo
Psidium guava	kuava
Pterocarpus indicus	riqi
Rapanea sp.(?)	biribiri
Ratonia sp.(?)	hime
Rhizophora mucronata	tolo
Rhizophora spp.	petu
Samanea saman	huda putaputa
Schizomeria serrata	roqi
Securinega flexuosa	mavuana
Semecarpus sp.	sakita
Sophora tomentosa	habehabe nusa
Spondias dulcis	opiti
Syzygium samarangense	malapo
Terminalia brassii	pepeo
Terminalia calamansanai	nabinabisi
Terminalia calamansanai	nabisi pinomo
Terminalia catappa	soari
Terminalia catappa	tatalise
Terminalia kaernbachii	tatalise hoholo
Terminalia sp.	nabisi
Thespesia populnea	matemate igana
Timonius sp.	kololou
Timonius sp.	toqongeta
Tournefortia argentea	bebea
Trema cannabina	dodoru
Trema orientalis(?)	sosoruku
Vitex cofassus	vasara
Xylocarpus granatum	koe